McLean County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2018

ISU Stevenson Center Jail Data Report

Dr. Frank Beck provided information on the bond process by year for misdemeanor (CM). In 2009, the jail staff began issuing personal recognizance bonds (PR) to reduce the jail population and relieve the over-crowding of the jail. That practice ended at the end of 2015. The rise in average time persons spend in the MCJ for CM cases has increased, and this increase attributable to the change in jail policy regarding the issuance of bonds.

There was review of the amount of time persons spend in the jail (when charged with a CM) – persons who spend less than 24 hours in the MCJ have had a slight increase in length of stay (an increase of less than 2.5 hours); but those staying more than 24 hours have seen a greater reduction in LOS.

The pre-trial services assessment (PSA) data was briefly presented. There have been 3743 assessments since January 2016, with 48% of those in CM cases. PSAs are only conducted on new arrests, and those who fail to appear or have a warrant issued who have pre-trial conditions. This is only about half of all CM arrests.

Department of Human Services - Request for Information

The Illinois Department of Human Services had requested McLean County, along with a few other counties, provide information on persons arrested who report a mental illness – self-report, officer arrest flag, jail personnel flag, or through placement. Approximately 28% of those arrested in 2016-2017 fit these categories. These are not the equivalent of a formal diagnosis of a mental illness.

A formalized system of referrals in the jail was put in place in 2017. 28 individuals have been flagged as clientele with mental problems. The flagged individuals have been linked with the Center for Human Services (Bloomington) for immediate psychiatric appointments upon release.

The Jail staff have been tracking referrals and the Behavioral Health Coordinating Council will begin a process for sharing data with social services providers to develop data on those connected with community based behavioral health services.

ICJIA Research on Recidivism

Dr. David Olson provided an update on the recidivism research. There are 5-6 counties in Illinois participating in the project with the ICJIA. The research in McLean County is centered on the recidivism rate for those on probation. Winnebago County is pursuing the same research so there may be some comparable data.

Dr. Olson asked for feedback on their draft report (circulated in March). This data and the research helps them understand the probation trends in Illinois.

CJCC / Adult Redeploy Summit

Mr. Jackson-Green reminded the group that there will be a summit for CJCC members and Adult Redeploy practitioners on May 8-10 in Bloomington. He gave a brief overview of the summit agenda.

Supportive Housing Initiative

Bill Wasson, County Administrator, stated that the County is working with the Arnold Foundation on a data-sharing tool which they hope to make available to other jurisdictions. The BHCC is working to identify persons who frequently use jail resources, social service resources and emergency department resources ("super-utilizers") and target them with supportive housing and other community-based resources. The County is hoping this will pay dividend in both stabilizing the individual and reducing the amount of resources used.

The initiative will begin in the fall, with the goal of 10 units in 2019 and expansion in 2020.

Changes in Judiciary

William Scanlon reviewed the changes in the McLean County Circuit Court:

- o Chief Judge Kevin Fitzgerald will retire on July 6, 2018
- Judge Robert Freitag will retire on July 6, 2018
- o Judge Mark Fellheimer has been elected as Chief Judge
- The Supreme Court will be appointing the replacement for both Judge Freitag and Judge Fitzgerald. The replacements should be known in June.
- o The new presiding judge of the Criminal Division is yet to be named.

Amendments to the CJCC Bylaws

Mr. Scanlon gave an overview of the changes. They involve the appointment of a designee by the Chief Judge to serve on the CJCC. The amendments will be voted on by the Executive Committee and then the CJCC in July.

Meeting adjourned: 12:44 p.m.

Next Meetings: CJCC Executive Committee May 9, 2018 at 7:45 a.m.

CJCC Executive Committee June 13, 2018 at 7:45 a.m.
CJCC meeting July 11, 2018 at noon